

# C | Agency Correspondence

This appendix contains copies of correspondence from resource and regulatory agencies that pertain to project approvals and authorizations. To date, only the US Fish and Wildlife Service's letter of concurrence with the Biological Assessment and the Washington State Department of Archaeological and Historic Preservation's letters of concurrence on the eligibility of historic properties for the National Register of Historic Places and the Area of Potential Effects (APE) have been received.

Other approvals and authorizations received at a later date will be included in this appendix prior to the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

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## United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office  
510 Desmond Dr. SE, Suite 102  
Lacey, Washington 98503



NOV 24 2008

In Reply Refer To:  
13410-2009-I-0019

Ms. Barb Aberle  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
Southwest Region  
P.O. Box 1709  
Vancouver, Washington 98668-1709

Dear Ms. Aberle:

This letter is in response to your request for informal consultation on the State Route (SR) 502 Corridor Widening project located in Clark County, Washington. On October 24, 2008, our office received your letter and Biological Assessment (BA) providing information in support of a "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" determination for the golden paintbrush (*Castilleja levisecta*), water howellia (*Howellia aquatilis*), and Bradshaw's lomatium (*Lomatium bradshawii*). This informal consultation has been conducted in accordance with section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) (Act).

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) has determined that the project will have "no effect" on bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis*), and gray wolf (*Canis lupus*). There is no requirement for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurrence, nor do the regulations provide the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the authority to concur with these determinations. Your determination that this project will have no effect on the above species rests with the action agency; therefore, consultation on these species is not required.

The proposed project will widen approximately four miles of SR 502 between NE 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NE 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in north Clark County, Washington. The SR 502 corridor will be widened to accommodate four lanes of traffic that will result in the creation of 28.79 acres of new pollution generating impervious surface. Project actions also include construction of paved sidewalks and shoulder, construction of stormwater facilities, and construction of wetland mitigation sites.

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We believe sufficient information has been provided to determine the effects of the proposed project modifications to federally listed species and to conclude whether the changes are likely to adversely affect those species. Our concurrence would be based on information in your letter, information in the BA, successful implementation of the Best Management Practices and Minimization Measures described in the BA, and the following rationale:

**Golden Paintbrush**

Golden paintbrush occurred historically in Clark County. The closest current occurrence is 60 miles northwest of the project site in Thurston County. The WSDOT surveyed the project area during the appropriate time period and the plant was not observed. Potential habitat in the action area consists of weedy annual species and non-native pasture grasses and has been converted to lawn or is actively grazed. Potential effects from the proposed project are considered extremely unlikely because of the disturbed condition of the habitat. Therefore the potential effects are discountable.

**Water Howellia**

Water howellia is known to occur in Clark County. The closest documented occurrence is five miles northwest of the project site. The species was not observed during field surveys during the appropriate survey period. The proposed project will impact 9.2 acres of wetlands that are mostly adjacent to SR 502. Wetland impacts will be offset at nearby mitigation sites. Potential habitat in the action area is currently used for grazing or is in agricultural production. Due to the degraded condition of potential habitat, the potential effects from the proposed project are considered extremely unlikely and are therefore discountable.

**Bradshaw's Lomatium**

Bradshaw's lomatium occurs in Clark County. The closest documented occurrence is 10 miles south/southeast of the action area. The species was not observed during field surveys during the appropriate survey period. The proposed project will remove 32.7 acres of grassland, and impact 9.2 acres of wetlands that are largely located adjacent to the freeway. Potential habitat in the action area consists of weedy annual species and non-native pasture grasses and is primarily used for grazing or has been converted to lawn. Potential effects to Bradshaw's lomatium are extremely unlikely due to the fragmented and disturbed condition of potential habitat in the action area and are therefore discountable.

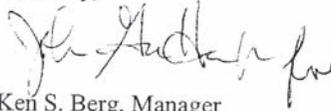
To expedite the environmental review process, if the Federal Highway Administration concurs with the effect determinations for listed species, then you may consider this action to be in compliance with requirements of the Act (50 CFR 402.13), thereby concluding the consultation process. The project should be reanalyzed if new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner, or to an extent, not considered in this consultation. The project should also be reanalyzed if the action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to a listed species or critical habitat that was not considered in this consultation, and/or a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by this project.

Barb Aberle

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If you have any questions about this letter or your responsibilities under the Act, please contact Brooke Hamilton at (360) 753-9073 of my staff.

Sincerely,



Ken S. Berg, Manager  
Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office

cc:  
WSDOT, Vancouver, WA (A. Haffie)  
WSDOT, Olympia, WA (P. Wagner)



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 • Olympia, Washington 98501  
Mailing address: PO Box 48343 • Olympia, Washington 98504-8343  
(360) 586-3065 • Fax Number (360) 586-3067 • Website: [www.dahp.wa.gov](http://www.dahp.wa.gov)

February 24, 2009

Ms. Leslie Schwab  
WSDOT Cultural Resources Specialist  
Washington State Department Of Transportation  
WSDOT-Mottman  
P.O. Box 47332  
Olympia, WA 98504-7332

In future correspondence please refer to:  
Log: 091907-08-FHWA  
Property: SR 502, Corridor Widening to Battle Ground  
Re: More Information Needed

Dear Ms. Schwab:

Thank you for contacting our office. I have reviewed the historic property inventory forms you provided for this project. No archaeological resources or site forms were evaluated in this review. We concur with 85 of the determinations of eligibility made for this project. Of those we reviewed, we concurred with your consultant on the determinations of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places on the following properties:

- Vancouver-Covington Transmission System
- Allen-Heasley house
- Blair house
- Thomas Farmstead
- Smith Farmstead
- JB Williams house

The remaining properties are not eligible with the following exceptions:

- The Stone Archway
- Evergreen Septic
- O'Brady's Drive in historic signage

For these properties additional cultural resource evaluation and better statements of significance would help us in our abilities to concur with the findings of your consultant.

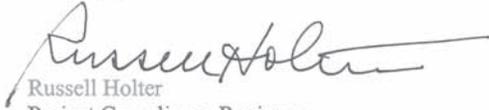
I would appreciate receiving any correspondence or comments from concerned tribes or other parties that you receive as you consult under the requirements of 36CFR800.4(a)(4) and the survey report when it is available. These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic



Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36CFR800. Please contact me should you have any specific questions about our request and we look forward to receiving this material.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Russell Holter  
Project Compliance Reviewer  
(360) 586-3533  
[russell.holter@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:russell.holter@dahp.wa.gov)

Cc: Matthew Sterner (DAHP)





Received

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Environmental Services Office  
Mottman

STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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April 1, 2009

Mr. Roger Kiers  
Cultural Resources Specialist  
WSDOT, Olympic Region  
P.O. Box 47332  
Olympia, WA 98512-7332

In future correspondence please refer to:  
Log: 091907-08-FHWA  
Property: SR 502, Corridor Widening to Battle Ground  
Re: Archaeology - APE Concur

Dear Mr. Kiers:

We have reviewed the materials forwarded to our office for the SR 502, Corridor Widening to Battle Ground project. Thank you for your description of the revised area of potential effect (APE) for the project. We concur with the definition of the revised APE. We look forward to the results of your cultural resources survey efforts, your consultation with the concerned tribes, and receiving the survey report. We would appreciate receiving any correspondence or comments from concerned tribes or other parties that you receive as you consult under the requirements of 36CFR800.4(a)(4) and the survey report when it is available.

These comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer in conformance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36CFR800. Should additional information become available, our assessment may be revised. Please note that DAHP has developed a set of cultural resource reporting guidelines. You can obtain a copy of these guidelines from our Web site. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Matthew Sterner, M.A., RPA  
Transportation Archaeologist  
(360) 586-3082  
[matthew.sterner@dahp.wa.gov](mailto:matthew.sterner@dahp.wa.gov)



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